to the farmers, ensuring timely availability of quality inputs, accelerating diversification to high value crops including horticulture, optimizing the efficient utilization of available water resources through micro irrigation and enhancing the sustainability of dryland/rain fed farming systems reforming agricultural markets, putting in place a broader spectrum of risk management apparatus for farmers, etc.

Compensation under NAIS for loss due to natural calamity

†1797. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision for compensation under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme for the losses caused due to natural disasters;

(b) whether losses caused due to frost is included in it; and

(c) if not, whether Government would consider this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is a Yield Guarantee Scheme.It provides coverage against yield losses caused due to non-preventable natural calamities which *inter alia* include natural fire and lightening, storm, hailstorm, cyclone, typhoon, tempest, hurricane, tornado, flood, inundation, landslide, drought, dry spells, pests, diseases and frost.

(c) Does not arise.

Assistance to fishermen of Goa

1798. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme for assisting fishermen who have lost vessels on account of natural calamities including rough weather at the sea;

(b) if so, the essential features of the scheme including pattern of assistance;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.